

# Imperial Valley Weekly

## *Imperial Hometown Review*

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## Filner Supports Tariffs To Protect Local Dairies

Congressman Bob Filner today announced his support for protecting Valley dairies from certain foreign dairy products now entering the U.S. market. Imposing tariffs on these foreign products would protect U.S. dairies from unfair competition.

"America's dairy farmers are struck hard by the flow of imported milk products into this country," said Congressman Filner. "Many in Imperial Valley are trying to bring more dairies to the area. This is not the time to allow milk products to flow unrestricted across our borders. We must protect our dairies and ensure a favorable market in the Valley and throughout the nation."

Foreign farmers have found a loophole in the current U.S. trade laws that makes "Milk Protein Concentrate" products virtually

tax-free, even though the U.S. does impose tariffs on related dairy products such as nonfat dry milk and cheese. Many dairy farmers are finding themselves at a disadvantage, competing with the tax-free imported milk products.

This leads to lower farm-level prices and the loss of income for dairy farmers throughout the nation. Congressman Bob Filner has agreed to be an original cosponsor of H.R. 1160.

Authored by Don Sherwood (R-Pennsylvania), the bill, also known as the Milk Import Tariff Equity Act, would impose tariffs on Milk products.

"We have to correct this loophole so that American's dairy farmers are no longer at a disadvantage," said Congressman Filner. "Areas like Imperial Valley will greatly benefit from this correction."